

REMARKS:

Claims 1-24, 55-66, and 71-81 are pending; no claims stand allowed.

Claims 1, 24, 55, 64, and 71, 73, 75, 77, and 79 have been amended to correct the indicated informalities therein. The Examiner's objection to these claims, as well the objection to claims 72, 74, 76, 78, and 80 dependent therefrom, is respectfully requested to be withdrawn.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 4-6, 8, 9, 11-16, 18, 24, 64, 65, and 71-80 as being anticipated by Bishop. However, the Examiner indicated that claims 2, 3, 7, 10, 17, 19-23, 66, and 81 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Examiner further indicated that claims 55-63 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the objections of claim 55 set forth in the Office Action.

In order to place the claims into condition for allowance, applicants have amended claim 1 by incorporating the subject matter of the allowed claim 2 that depended from claim 1. Accordingly, claim 2 is canceled. Claim 1 is also amended to remove the recitations of "deposited by chemical or physical vapor deposition" and "wherein the movable portion is operable to be actuated by an electrostatic force derived from an electrostatic field established between the movable portion and an electrode", because the Examiner indicated that such recitations "are not germane to the issue of patentability of the device itself. Therefore, this limitation has not been given patentable weight." It was assumed from these comments that these recitations are not being given weight and can be removed from the claims.

Independent claims 71, 73 and 77 have been amended herein to recite that the nitride compound is a nitride of silicon, boron or aluminum (claim 71) and that the ceramic compound is a nitride compound that is a nitride of silicon, boron or aluminum (claims 73 and 77). Though these claims did not have any dependent claims similar to the allowed claim 2 (that was dependent from claim 1), applicants amend claims 71, 73 and 77 herein by incorporating subject matter analogous to that of previously pending allowable claim 2. It is assumed that in doing so, these independent claims are also placed in condition for allowance.

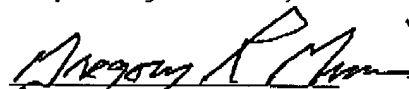
Each of the independent claims 24, 55, 64, 75 and 79 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of the allowable claim 7, so as to place these claims (as well as claims 56-63 dependent from claim 55, claims 65-66 dependent from claim 64, claim 76 dependent from claim 75, and claims 80-81 dependent from claim 79), into condition for allowance. Though these independent claims did not have a dependent claim analogous to allowable claim 7, it is assumed

that amending these claims with the subject matter of claim 7 will place these claims in condition for allowance.

New claim 82 is presented herein. Claim 82 is a combination of the subject matter of claim 1 and allowable claim 7. Also, new claim 83 is presented herein. Claim 83 is a combination of the subject matter of claim 1, allowable claim 17 and intervening claim 12.

The application is considered in good and proper form for allowance, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue. In the event any fees are required in connection with this paper, please charge our Deposit Account No. 501516.

Respectfully submitted,



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